

CONCERNING DYNAMITE.

MILLIONS of Dollars Invested in Its Manufacture in the United States.

Very few people have a correct idea of what dynamite is, of what it is made and the uses to which it is put. To the French belongs the honor of its discovery and its practical use.

Nitroglycerin is the force of all high explosives. Dynamite is the name most usually given to these explosives, though other names are sometimes used.

Dynamite is simply nitroglycerin mixed with various ingredients. Nitroglycerin is made by mixing sulphuric acid with nitric acid and glycerin, the same that is used by the ladies to prevent chapped hands. Mixing the acids and glycerin is where the great danger lies in the making of nitroglycerin. The mixing tank, or agitator, as it is called by dynamite makers, is a large steel tank, filled inside with many coils of lead pipe, through which, while the mixing is in progress, a constant flow of ice water is maintained. This flow of ice water is kept below 85 degrees, as above that point it would explode, and a hole in the ground would mark where the factory had been. The nitroglycerin is stored in large earthenware tanks, which are usually sunk in the ground to guard against blows or severe concussion.

The other ingredients for making dynamite are, nitrate of soda (which is found only in Chili), carbonate of magnesia and wood pulp.

Dynamite is put in paper shells usually 1 1/2 inches in diameter and 8 inches in length, and weighs about one-half pound to each shell or cartridge. It has largely taken the place of black powder for blasting, as it is many hundreds of times stronger, and consequently more economical. It is used chiefly in mining all kinds of ores, coal and rock, and submarine blasting and railroad building. Without its aid many railroads, especially those crossing the Rocky mountains, could not have been constructed; without it Hell Gate, in New York harbor, could not have been destroyed, and without it the miner, at prices he would pay for mining ores, could not earn his bread.

Dynamite will not explode from any ordinary fall or jar. It will burn without explosion and freezes at 42 degrees, 10 degrees above ordinary freezing point. The bomb is made of metal or glass and filled with pure nitroglycerin arranged so as to explode by severe contact with any hard object. These bombs are of course never made by a reputable dynamite factory.

Five or six millions of dollars are invested in the manufacture of dynamite in the United States, and its use is constantly on the increase. The fumes of nitroglycerin produce intense headache, which can be cured by taking a very small dose of it internally.—Detroit Free Press.

A Logician Out of Place.

A gentleman who stood a few moments at a corner where a large tug was in process of erection overboard some remarks made by an Irish workman who evidently fancied himself a logician of no mean order.

He was a sturdy, good natured looking man, but evidently enjoyed leaning on his hod and commenting on what passed around him much better than he did active work. The cry of "mortar" usually rang out several times before he heeded it.

"Pat," said the foreman severely, coming upon the man at one of the moments when he was "resting a bit," "why don't you attend to your work and keep that hod going?"

"Shure, now," said Pat, shifting his feet and turning a broad smile upon the foreman, "if I was to kape him goin he wouldn't have sorra a thing to say at all; an if he didn't say anything, how would I know he was there? An if he wasn't there what would he be wantin of mortar, sorr?"

And Pat marched off with his hod, leaving the foreman severely, but certainly confused by this remarkable exhibition of the workings of a logical mind.—Youth's Companion.

Stage Struck.

Two men met on a train going west. They had known each other in the sixties and resumed acquaintance with a vim.

"An how's that bright boy of yours?" asked the city man of his old time friend.

"Pearl, pearl as ever, pard. I were got to make a minister of him, but he got stage struck and took to that line as nat'ral as a duck does to water, an I had to gin in. And he's the best shot in Montany."

"Took to the stage, eh? And has he been successful?"

"Successful? Well, I reckon he hez. Why, their ain't a man can be named in the same day with Bill. He kin drop a grizzly in his tracks without ever comin down from his perch."

"What is his role?"

"Roll? I don't savy, pard."

"I mean what line is he in?"

"Oh, the Mounting an Valley line that runs to Goochville through Catamount Grove and Grizzly Hollow. 'Taint fun all the time either, pard, when bandits is layin low for yer money or yer life."

"Ah, he does the sensational on the boards. I see. A low comedian."

"Nothin low about Bill, ole friend. He jist sits on the top of the Mounty stage an drives his four-in-hand as easy as rollin off a log. Ez I said, the stage wuz right in his line, an he's a thunderin good driver."—Detroit Free Press.

Not So Green as He Looked.

A man entered a busy city office a few weeks ago and asked permission to use the telephone. He walked to the corner pointed out by one of the clerks, looked curiously at the instrument and after a furtive glance toward the other occupants of the room took down the receiver and gently whispered into it, "Hello."

A broad smile passed around the room, and one of the younger clerks called out in patronizing tones, "Oh, no, uncle; hang up the tube, ring the bell on the right, then put the tube to your ear and talk to that little hole before you."

The man obediently hung up the receiver and turned toward the speaker. "Thank you," he said dryly, "I am the general inspector of this telephone line."

—Youth's Companion.

Appearances Are Deceptive.

He looked every inch the hog, but he wasn't.

He sat inside a Cottage Grove avenue car, while two women and a man stood just in front of him. One woman held on to a strap, while the other wobbled about in a manner very disconcerting to a man who was sitting.

Glancing up uneasily he discovered the cause. The man who was standing was grasping two straps in one hand.

The man who was sitting may have resembled the street car hog, but, as we have said, he wasn't, not by a long shot. Reaching up, he touched the man on the shoulder.

"I beg pardon, but won't you let this lady have one of those straps?"

Then he drew his pet corn from under the seat and resigned himself to his paper.—Chicago News Record.

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405 East Pratt Street, Baltimore, Md.
Shipping Letters J. H. S.
References—Citizens National Bank, of Baltimore, also the leading business houses of this city.

Sweet Potatoes a specialty.
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Shipping No. 64.
Reference—Irving National Bank.

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Returns made promptly.
Refer to Dun's and Bradstreet's Mercantile Agencies.

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